

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

DEC 17 2003

OFFICIAL

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 1-703-872-9310 on December 17, 2003.

Stephenie Hill  
Name (Print)

*Stephenie Hill*  
Signature

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: BENTON et al.	)	Examiner: TUCKER, Philip C.
	)	
Application No.: 10/076,209	)	
	)	Group Art Unit: 1712
Filed: February 14, 2002	)	
	)	
Docket No.: 00072CIP (3600-306-01)	)	Confirmation No.: 8589

For: DRILLING FLUIDS CONTAINING AN ALKALI METAL FORMATE

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 17, 2003

Sir:

Applicants petition the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to extend the time from the Office Action dated August 1, 2003 for two months, from November 1, 2003, to January 1, 2004.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 03-0060 in the amount of \$ 420.00 to cover the cost of the extension fee for a large entity. In the event that any additional fees are due in connection with this paper, please charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 03-0060.

Respectfully submitted,

*Luke A. Kilyk*  
Luke A. Kilyk  
Reg. No. 33,251

Atty. Docket No. 00072CIP (3600-306-01)  
KILYK & BOWERSOX, P.L.L.C.  
53 A East Lee Street  
Warrenton, VA 20186  
Tel.: (540) 428-1701  
Fax: (540) 428-1720

01/06/2004 RESELLMAN 03000001 030060 10076209  
01 FC:1252 420.00 DA